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Follows CIA Summary

Restrained Senate Quiz Leaves U-2 Puzzle Intact

By Chalmers M. Roberts

Staff Reporter

A brown-eyed young man of 32, dressed in a new 3-button gray suit, his black hair flecked with gray, spent 90 minutes yesterday before the Senate Armed Services Committee and 5 subsequent minutes with the press outside the hearing room door.

He was Francis Gary Powers, the pilot of the ill-fated U-2 reconnaissance plane, whose capture in the heart of the Soviet Union nearly two years ago had major international diplomatic and domestic political ramifications.

When he had finished his story and when carefully restrained senatorial questioning was over, much of the mystery about pilot Powers remained. He added little in the hasty press questioning before the cameras and microphones before he was led off by Central Intelligence Agency men.

To Continue Work

Last night a CIA spokesman said there were "no plans" to produce Powers at a press conference. Powers said he will continue to work for the Agency. Indications were that the Kennedy Administration wants to consider the case closed despite earlier promises of a press conference.

Powers told his story in a relaxed, matter of fact tone lightened only a couple of times by slight humor. What he had to say closely followed the CIA summary, issued prior to the hearing, of the lengthy interrogation of Powers since his exchange in Berlin for Soviet spy Rudolf Abel.

Chairman Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) opened the hearing by saying it was being held in "the interest of fair play for Mr. Powers." He added that Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.) had just told him Powers was a Virginia boy. Byrd beamed at this reference to the boy from Pound, Va., who seemed, however, to have lost most of his Virginia accent.

News Analysis

could not get to it because of the force of gravity as he was falling.

On the issue of whether he should have killed himself, Powers said yesterday he was given the famous poison needle to take along (and it was his option even whether to take it) for use only if he faced torture. When Russell asked if he was under an obligation "to destroy yourself," Powers replied with a quick: "Oh, no, no."

However, at the time of the incident high CIA officials here made no bones of their disappointment that Powers had not taken his own life. Then they were greatly worried at what Powers might tell the Soviets. Yesterday the CIA summary listed instructions said to have been given Powers in advance which said he was "perfectly free to tell the full truth" of his mission except for certain specifications of the U-2.

Powers was in friendly senatorial hands yesterday. Half a dozen Senators complimented him on his conduct. And when Powers remarked that "one thing I always remembered while I was there was that I was an American" the crowded Senate Caucus Room resounded with applause from the public.

The flier's escape from the smashed plane was indeed a tribute to his ability and his calm telling of the tale gave only a glimmer of the drama in the sky on May 1, 1960. Whether he should have said more or less in captivity is hard to judge. He said yesterday that he refused to

was just reluctant in answering all questions." As to whether that fit the cooperation needed...

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